The ground connection must be physically located in a position where it is inaccessible to the normal movement of occupants or accessories in the lifeboat;

(2) The radio installation when installed in a lifeboat having a nonmetallic hull must be grounded to a bare plate or strips of corrosion resistant metal having a total area of at least 6 square feet and located on the hull of the lifeboat below the waterline.

(f) When the lifeboat is afloat the installation must be capable of developing an antenna current such that the product of the maximum height of the antenna above the mean surface of the water, expressed in meters, and the r.m.s. antenna current on the frequency 500 kHz, expressed in amperes, is not less than 9.6.

[51 FR 31213, Sept. 2, 1986, as amended at 58 FR 44953, Aug. 25, 1993; 63 FR 36607, July 7, 1998]

§ 80.830 Power supply for survival craft nonportable radiotelegraph installation.

(a) The power supply for the survival craft nonportable radiotelegraph installation must consist of a battery capable of operating the survival craft radiotelegraph installation for at least 6 hours continuously under normal working conditions.

(b) The battery may power equipment other than the radiotelegraph installation (except that it must not be used to supply power to any engine starting motor or ignition system) provided such additional use will not adversely affect the required capabilities of the battery. All circuits connected to the battery must be independently fused.

(c) The battery must be kept charged at all times while at sea. The charging of the battery must not require its removal from the survival craft in which it is installed. The necessary charging equipment must not interfere with the launching of the survival craft, and must be easily and quickly removable. The charging circuit for the battery must be routed through the radiotelegraph operating room, and include a device located in the radiotelegraph operating room which will give continuous indication of the polarity and the rate of charge.

(d) Installation must provide for charging of the battery by means of a generator on the survival craft engine.

(e) Subject to approval of the United States Coast Guard, the battery must be mounted in a suitable container that will provide protection from salt water spray and also allow proper ventilation.

§ 80.831 Survival craft portable radiotelegraph equipment.

(a) Survival craft portable radiotelegraph equipment required by law to be provided must be certificated by the Commission as capable of meeting the provisions of §§ 80.263 and 80.265.

(b) The equipment must be stowed in the radio room, bridge or a protected location near a lifeboat and be readily accessible for transfer to a lifeboat. However, in tankers of 3,000 gross tons and over in which lifeboats are fitted amidships and aft, this equipment must be kept in a suitable place in the vicinity of those lifeboats which are farthest away from the ship's main transmitter.

(c) Equipment for totally enclosed lifeboats must meet the extra requirements specified in § 80.265.

[51 FR 31213, Sept. 2, 1986, as amended at 63 FR 36607, July 7, 1998]

§ 80.832 Tests of survival craft radio equipment.

(a) Except for emergency position indicating radio beacons and two-way radiotelephone equipment, inspections and tests of survival craft radio equipment must be conducted by the licensee at weekly intervals while the ship is at sea or, if a test or inspection has not been conducted within a week prior to its departure, within 24 hours prior to the ship's departure from a port. The inspection and tests must include operation of the transmitter connected to an artificial antenna and determination of the specific gravity or voltage under normal load of any batteries.

(b) When the ship is in a harbor or port of the United States an authorized representative of the Commission may require:

(1) Inspection and test of the survival craft radio equipment in the survival craft afloat, including an operational test of the transmitter and receiver connected to the required antenna to determine that the equipment is in operating condition;

(2) Demonstration in accordance with § 80.808 that a battery used as a part of the survival craft nonportable radio installation is capable of energizing the installation for the required 6 hours.

(c) The results of the inspections and test must be made known to the master, and be entered in the ship's radio station log, or in the ship's log if the ship is not provided with a radio station.

§ 80.833 Class S survival craft emergency position indicating radiobeacons (EPIRB's).

(a) Survival craft emergency position indicating radiobeacons, Class S, required to comply with title 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations must be certificated to meet the provisions of § 80.1059.

(b) The Class S EPIRB must be stowed in the survival craft.

(c) The Class S EPIRB must be tested at intervals not to exceed twelve months.

(d) Batteries must be replaced after the date specified in § 80.1053(e), or after the transmitter has been used in an emergency situation, whichever is earlier.

[51 FR 31213, Sept. 2, 1986, as amended at 63 FR 36607, July 7, 1998]

§ 80.834 Survival craft portable two-way radiotelephone.

(a) Survival craft portable two-way radiotelephone transceivers must meet the provisions of § 80.271.

(b) The equipment must be stowed in the radio room, on the bridge or in a location readily accessible for transfer to life boats when not being used by shipboard personnel to satisfy the vessel's operational requirements.

(c) When not in routine use the survival craft two-way radiotelephone transceivers must be operationally tested once a week. Operational test should be conducted with equipment separated as far as practical and in the case of UHF equipment must include tests on the frequency 457.525 MHz.

(d) All survival craft two-way radiotelephones associated with a ship must operate in the same frequency band (VHF or UHF).

§ 80.835 Ship and survival craft station spare parts, tools, instruction books, circuit diagrams and testing equipment.

(a) Each ship station must be provided with such spare parts, tools, testing equipment, instruction books and circuit diagrams as will enable the radiotelegraph installation and survival craft station to be maintained in working condition while at sea. Each ship station licensee must compile a list of spare parts, tools, test equipment and circuit diagrams it considers necessary for compliance with this requirement. This list must be available at inspection. Spare parts for the survival craft station must be kept with that station. Other items must be located convenient to the radio room.

(b) The testing equipment must include an instrument or instruments for measuring A.C. volts, D.C. volts and ohms.

[51 FR 31213, Sept. 2, 1986, as amended at 63 FR 29660, June 1, 1998]

§ 80.836 General exemptions.

(a) General small passenger vessel exemptions, applicable to certain U.S. passenger vessels of less than 100 gross tons, are contained in subpart S of this part.

(b) All newly constructed U.S. cargo vessels of 1600 gross tons and upward are exempt from the radiotelegraph and radio direction finding provisions of Part II of Title III of the Communications Act when navigated on sea trials, not more than 150 nautical miles from the nearest land, if the following conditions are met:

(1) The vessel is equipped with a radiotelephone capable of operation on 2182 kHz and equipped with a radiotelephone alarm signal generator. The vessel may carry an additional portable radiotelephone, located in the wheelhouse, equipped with a radiotelephone alarm signal generator to satisfy the radiotelephone alarm signal generator requirement;